

C/CAG

CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

*Atherton • Belmont • Brisbane • Burlingame • Colma • Daly City • East Palo Alto • Foster City • Half Moon Bay • Hillsborough • Menlo Park
Millbrae • Pacifica • Portola Valley • Redwood City • San Bruno • San Carlos • San Mateo • San Mateo County • South San Francisco • Woodside*

Resource Management and Climate Protection Task Force **Minutes from the 10-14-11 Meeting**

Next meeting: December 9, 2011, 1-3pm - 555 County Center, 5th Floor, Redwood City

In attendance:

Douglas Alfaro, County of San Mateo County Manager's Office
Noelle Bell-Copley, Ecology Action
Maryann Moise Derwin, Committee Vice Chair, Portola Valley Town Council*
Napallo Gomez-Somer, Ecology Action
Pedro Gonzalez, South San Francisco City Council*
Deborah Gordon, Committee Chair, Woodside Town Council*
Will Klein, San Mateo County RecycleWorks (staff)
Kathy Lavezzo, PG&E
Barbara Pierce, Redwood City Council*
Dave Pine, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors* (1:10)
Sepi Richardson, Brisbane City Council* (by phone and then in person)
Kim Springer, San Mateo County RecycleWorks (staff)
Sandy Wong, C/CAG
Susan Wright, San Mateo County RecycleWorks (staff)

Not in attendance:

Bob Cormia, Foothill De Anza Community College
Jorge Jaramillo, San Mateo County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Richard Napier, C/CAG
Nicole Sandkulla, BAWSCA
Eric Sevim, A+ Japanese Auto Repair
Lauren Swezey, Facebook
*=Voting member

- 1) **Introductions:** Attendees introduced themselves and their organizations.
- 2) **Public Comment:** There were no public comments.
- 3) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the September 9, 2011 meeting were approved.
- 4) **Presentation on Energy Upgrade California Program (Douglas Alfaro and Napallo Gomez-Somer):**

Napallo explained how the statewide Energy Upgrade program takes a whole-house approach to energy efficiency, as opposed to appliance-based incentive programs of the past. When
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homeowners go to www.energyupgradeca.org, they have the opportunity to type in “San Mateo County” to go to our customized section. Homeowners can choose from the Basic Upgrade Package to be eligible for \$1,000 in PG&E rebates, or the Advanced Upgrade Package to be eligible for \$1,500 to \$4,000 in PG&E rebates.

Douglas explained that the County of San Mateo is matching the PG&E rebates up to \$4,000. Also, ABAG is now pooling its incentive funds regionally to offer an additional \$1,000 to \$2,000 in rebates, plus \$300 rebate for the energy assessment. So a total of \$10,000 is available to County residents. The County is now working with CHF to offer a 3%, 15-year fixed interest loan program to residents.

Douglas described the marketing efforts currently underway, including online social marketing, presentations to city councils and civic groups, and in-person homeowner workshops. He explained that it has been more difficult than anticipated to find homeowners willing to share their “success stories.”

RMCP members were interested to see a sample report. The group also discussed the possibility of partnering with banks to get energy efficiency upgrades made on foreclosed homes before they are put back on the market. This would be a point of differentiation that could keep the market value higher, as well as help satisfy the program’s goals. The group was also interested in the idea of supporting policy to require the disclosure of a home’s energy efficiency at the time of sale.

Deborah Gordon suggested that San Mateo County’s achievements with the Energy Upgrade program be presented to the Steve Wesley, a member of Secretary of Energy Advisory Board’s Building Energy Efficiency Subcommittee. Both Deborah and Dave Pine know Steve. A presentation could be made once more examples/success stories from San Mateo County are available.

While the PG&E rebates will be available through the end of 2012, the County’s matching incentives will end at the end of February 2012.

5) Update on San Mateo County Energy Watch Program (Susan Wright, Will Klein):

Susan showed the charts that highlight the energy savings achieved through the Energy Watch program to date. She pointed out that in the last month, the savings for several LED streetlights projects were incorporated for the first time: Brisbane, Burlingame, Colma, Foster City, Menlo Park, and Millbrae. In addition, savings for the residential portion of the Energy Watch program (MIDI – middle income direct install) have also enabled the totals to jump, especially for therms. The MIDI program serves homes whose income level is just above low income. Measures include weatherization, lighting, and water savings (low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators).

Susan introduced Will Klein, the new AmeriCorps intern who will be leading up outreach to the non-profit sector. Will is planning to develop short testimonial videos and articles that showcase the work Energy Watch has done for non-profits in key categories: congregations, health & human services, housing, etc. Will plans to give presentations to groups of non-profits to introduce the program and ensure that it’s not “too good to be true.” He will also send out information about the program (including links to the online video testimonials) through these trusted groups. About 20 non-profits have received an energy audit and subsequent proposal, but never had work done. Will will work with Ecology Action to determine the barriers to moving forward. If cash flow was a

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primary driver, Will will reach out to non-profit funders to see if he can find any willing to offer financial support,

Susan gave background about the Energy Watch email newsletter and introduced the new municipal version. She explained that since this version has more targeted information and is being sent to elected officials, city managers, public works directors, and environmental coordinators, it should help drive more project leads into the Energy Watch pipeline.

Susan let RMCP members know that for a short time this summer, PG&E had to suspend payment of gas rebates due to a shift in state budget funds. Now that the CPUC has resolved that issue and PG&E gas rebates are back, Energy Watch will be resuming efforts to encourage cities to move forward with larger projects with longer payback (often related to HVAC systems) using PG&E's on-bill financing (now called Energy Efficiency Retrofit Loan Program).

Susan reminded the group about the project to include city progress reports on the Energy Watch website. After receiving input at the August meeting, the team revised the reports. The following changes were made:

- Population data was pulled from the same source as other C/CAG programs
- Communitywide energy use data was shown with a 3-year moving average, and indicated "rate of change"
- The up and down arrows were put on a scale to show relative movement
- Communitywide energy use data was shown for 8 years instead of just 5, and included a goal line for 2020 energy use.

RMCP members liked all of the improvements. Regarding the 8-year chart with the goal line, attendees indicated that they would like it to also show where we would have been if we had done nothing, where we are, and where we need to be. At the December meeting, the group will be shown city energy use shown in a side-by-side comparison format.

6) Update on Climate Action Plan Template, Outreach and CEQA Plan (Kim Springer):

Kim explained that the data structure for the Hara tool is nearly complete. He gave a recap of the CAP template and tool workshop that C/CAG and Joint Venture Workshop cohosted on October 6. It was well attended, well received, and generated a lot of interest. For instance, Elizabeth Russell from AMBAG was happy to know about the template and tool because her region is under pressure to do something similar. Both Santa Clara County and Alameda County showed interest in coordinating with their cities to use the tools.

San Bruno and Pacifica are currently working with Kema on their CAPs using the template; they plan to upload their data into the tool by the end of year. Next year, five more cities have committed to doing the same: Millbrae, Portola Valley, Cupertino, Colma, and Belmont. The goal is to get every city in San Mateo County (that does not have a CAP) to create a CAP using the template, upload their data into the tool, and use it over time. For those cities that have already completed a CAP, the goal is to have them use the tool. The tool has room for an additional 30 measures beyond the original 40 developed by Kema.

Kim explained what has been learned about the CEQA implications. After C/CAG develops its own CAP (intended to be completed by the end of the year), it will develop an EIR (not associated with general plan update). That EIR would mention the project, including the measures and how they were developed. It will suggest that cities make use of the tools and develop their own EIR (if the

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CAP is part of a general plan update). If not, then it would be recommended that the city do an initial study and negative declaration. (C/CAG will create a template for these.) These would provide some protections to each other. If a city does complete a qualified greenhouse gas reduction strategy, the BAAQMD's term for a CAP, it can tier off of that CAP for future development projects. Since this is breaking new ground, C/CAG will go back to the Office of Planning & Research (OPR) for more guidance. OPR suggests that everything be run by a city's attorney.

Kim said that this project is starting to get more visibility; it's possible it could go statewide. Abby Young at the Air District mentioned the tool package in a recent presentation to a broad state audience. OPR also mentioned it. To avoid confusion, Kim thought that the project should be branded as, for instance, C/CAG's CAP template. Moving forward, the group briefly discussed how to reach out to cities who have not yet committed to participating, and names were suggested for city staff, well versed in CEQA compliance. A presentation at the Council of Cities should be considered. Both Barbara Pierce and Sepi Richardson expressed interest in having their cities participate.

7) Committee Member Updates

Barbara will send an update about the ABAG general assembly.

- 8) **Next Regular Meeting Date:** December 9, 2011 at 1pm (November to be canceled due to Veterans Day holiday)